

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2684 without my signature.

Charitable organizations provide a variety of critical services to individuals in their communities and usually do so with very limited funds. I commend all the charitable organizations that provide training and other services to clients facing employment barriers. I appreciate the author's desire to limit burdensome administrative requirements imposed on charitable organizations.

This bill would exempt charitable organizations contracting with a state or local agency to provide employment services from the requirement that they verify an individual's legal right to work in this country. While requiring charitable organizations to check an individual's right to work status may be viewed as an administrative burden, it is a necessary requirement to ensure limited public funds are spent to train individuals who can legally obtain employment in California. This is particularly true for charitable organizations using federal Workforce Investment Act funds, which, under federal law, can only be used to train workers who have the right to work in the United States.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger